

5. (Once Amended) A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide according to claim 1.

9. (Once Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

10. (Once Amended) A vaccine composition comprising a polypeptide according to claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

11. (Once Amended) A method of treating or preventing or reducing the susceptibility to *C. tetani* infection in human or animal, which comprises administering to the human or animal an effective amount of a polypeptide according to claim 1.

13. (Once Amended) A method for producing antibodies which recognise epitopes within a TeNT polypeptide, which method comprises administering a polypeptide according to claim 1, to a mammal.

14. (Once Amended) A method of treating *C. tetani* infection in a human or animal, which comprises administering to a human or animal an effective amount of an antibody produced according to claim 13.

Please add the following new claims:

17. (New) A vaccine composition comprising a polynucleotide according to claim 5, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

18. (New) A method of treating or preventing or reducing the susceptibility to *C. tetani* infection in a human or animal, which comprises administering to the human or animal an effective amount of a polynucleotide according to claim 5.